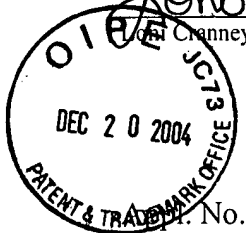


**CERTIFICATE OF MAILING**

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail on December 15, 2004 in an envelope addressed to Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

Ref. No.: 12439-0020

IFW 2822



**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Patent No. : 09/753,309  
Applicant : Eldridge et al.  
Filed : December 29, 2000  
TC/A.U. : 2822  
Examiner : David E. Graybill

Confirmation No. 7839

Docket No. : P60D1-US

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**RESPONSE TO OFFICE COMMUNICATION**

Sir:

In response to the Office Communication of October 15, 2004, the shortened statutory period for response to which ends after December 15, 2004, Applicants respond as follows:

The Examiner has asked whether the above-identified patent application and US Patent Application Publication 2004/0004216 were owned by or subject to an obligation of assignment to the same person at the time the invention was made? Applicants answer yes.

At the time of the inventions in both applications, the inventors of the above-identified patent application and US Patent Application Publication 2004/0004216 were employees of FormFactor, Inc. and contractually obligated to assign all such inventions to FormFactor. In fact, the parent of the above-identified patent application (US Patent No. 6,456,099) and the parent of US Patent Application Publication 2004/0004216 (US Patent No. 6,551,844) were assigned to FormFactor within three months of their filing dates. Those assignments were recorded at real/frame 009842/0248 and 009896/0232.

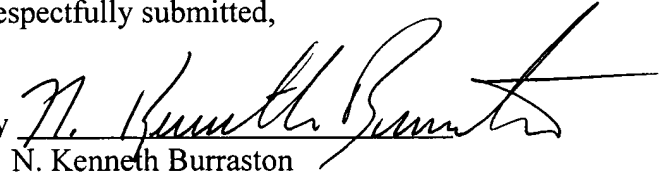
Appl. No. 09/753,309  
Response dated December 15, 2004  
Reply to Communication of October 15, 2004

If at any time the Examiner believes that a discussion with Applicants' attorney would be helpful, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at (801) 323-5934..

Respectfully submitted,

Date: December 15, 2004

By



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